

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE  
MUNICIPAL GOLF COMMISSION MINUTES**

**APRIL 27, 2005**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Municipal Golf Commission was called to order by Chairman Skip Rowland, at 3:30 p.m. in the classroom at the Long Beach Junior Golf Academy Building, 6730 E. Carson Street, Long Beach, California. Thomas Shippey, Manager of Maintenance Operations, took roll call and confirmed a quorum.

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	Skip Rowland, Chairman	
	Phil Barlow, Vice-Chairman	
	Gail Berns	Bill Townsend
	John McCann	Robin Bellamy
	Tonny Christensen	Bob Peeters
	Becky Turley	Ray McElhenney
	Len Kennett	Linda Cook

**Excused:** Betty Hatcher

**Staff:** Thomas Shippey, Manager of Maintenance Operations  
Terry Lortz, Superintendent of Golf Operations  
Amy Arteaga, Golf Operations Support

**American Golf:** Lisa Georgeson, Junior Golf Coordinator  
Jason Koh, General Manager at Skylinks Golf Course

**Audience:** Al Theriault  
Bill Barfield  
Dan Gooch  
Gordon Olson  
Sheila Saracino  
Marilyn Beighan

**2. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

- Chairman Rowland welcomed and asked all guests to please sign in and introduce themselves.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 23, 2005**

- The minutes of the March 23, 2005 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**It was moved by Commissioner Peeters and seconded by Commissioner Cook that the Municipal Golf Commission approve the minutes. The motion carried unanimously.**

**4. GOLF SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

- Rounds of golf for March were down by 5,057 (-13.8%) over the total course rounds for March. Total rounds of golf were down by 25,330 (-25.7%) for the year compared to this time last year. **(Skylinks was removed from the comparison)**
- Mr. Lortz asked the commissioners if they had any questions or comments on the rounds/financial report for the month of March.
- Mr. Lortz reviewed the highlights of the Monthly Facilities Report and asked the commissioners if they had any questions on any of the reports.
- CIP Golf Fund - Current balance approximately = \$28,199

**5. AMERICAN GOLF REPORT**

- Junior Golf 1% Fund available balance March 30, 2005 = \$77,833.55
- Little Linksters Fund available balance March 30, 2005 = \$73,653.07
- Ms. Lisa Georgeson provided an update on the various junior golf programs in our City.
  - The Long Beach Junior Golf Association held it's first Junior/Adult tournament on April 22, 2005 with 110 players.
  - The Get-A-Grip Program will be starting up pending planning with recreation staff members from the City. Plans are to visit four park sites during June, July, and August. Phil Hester, Director has authorized funds from the 1% fund to pay for transportation to and from Heartwell Golf Course.

- Currently working with Naomi Ramey from the Long Beach Chapter of the NAACP to operate two series of golf clinics for youngsters. The events will begin on May 11<sup>th</sup> at Heartwell and possibly El Dorado Golf Course.
- The Little Linksters Program has been scheduled for the last two weeks of July which would be July 18 – 22<sup>nd</sup> and July 25 – 29<sup>th</sup>. Program applications were released on April 1, 2005. Applications were distributed to all the courses as well as City facilities.
- Golf clinic for special education students of the Long Beach Unified School District has been scheduled for May 24, 2005 at Skylinks Golf Course. All commissioners are encouraged to attend. The students will be on the driving range from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. followed by lunch.

## **6. COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS**

### **A. Capital Improvement Projects – Bill Townsend**

- Commissioners have a draft CIP list to review and share with their clubs. A final list will be compiled with all the necessary changes.
- Chairman Rowland asked about getting an accurate financial report for CIP. Mr. Shippey informed the commission that due to the budget crisis right now all the budget analysts and financial managers are devoting their time and resources to building the budget for next year. They aren't available to support the Golf Commission right now but as soon as they are available, Mr. Shippey will meet with them.

### **B. Fees and Charges – Bob Peeters**

- Tentatively scheduled a meeting for Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 2:30 p.m.

### **C. Hall of Fame – Len Kennett**

- Hall of Fame nominations close on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. The committee will be meeting on May 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 to decide who will be recommended to the commission.
- The City will fund bronze plaques and display cabinets with the exception of the free-hand drawings.

- How do we get publicity and participation from the women and men's clubs? It would be great to have twenty-five couples from every club and have at least 200 people attend the presentation at the City championship. What are your feelings? How can we publish?
- Commissioner McCann suggested we put an announcement in each of the clubs newsletter and advertise on the clubs' web pages.
- Mr. Shippey commented we could advertise on the Skylinks electronic reader board sign, City's "the Wave" billing newsletter, etc.
- Commissioner Cook asked about food and drinks?
- Commissioner Cook asked the commissioners to go back to their clubs and have them donate something to help out with the Hall of Fame.

D. Policies and Procedures– Tonny Christensen

- No committee report.

E. Tournaments – Robin Bellamy

- No committee report.

F. Junior Golf Advisory – Linda Cook

- No committee report.

**7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

GPS proposal for Skylinks Golf Course:

- Vice-Chairman Barlow read the recommendation from the Fees & Charges Committee. "The GPS system be installed at Skylinks on all golf carts with the cost of the cart per player to be included in the base price of the cart. These prices will be excluded during sanctioned tournaments where it will revert back to the Long Beach City golf cart price due to the fact that the use of GPS isn't allowed during sanctioned tournaments".

**It was moved by Commissioner Townsend and seconded by Commissioner Bellamy that the Municipal Golf Commission approve the GPS Proposal. The motion carried unanimously.**

- Mr. Shippey asked why the committee wasn't recommending how much to charge.
- Mr. Lortz asked to clarify for those that weren't at the committee meeting that think American Golf was going to pay for it and make a lot of money. The commissioners were reminded that the City gets .35 cents and AGC gets .65 cents per every dollar.
- Chairman Rowland commented that theoretically it would improve pace of play from a half to one hour.
- Mr. Shippey commented that we all agree it's a great system and everyone agrees or has played it is happy about it. The Fees and Charges Committee weren't comfortable about recommending \$1 per golfer.
- Vice-Chairman Barlow our motion is based on the fact that the cost at all the other courses that were reviewed is a dollar per cart not a dollar per golfer. This is what is being charged at other courses that are using the GPS system. A dollar per cart is a good recommendation considering if the cost is more the committee would be glad to review. The committee is looking at something without full information so were recommending a dollar per cart not per player. Vice-Chairman requested an amendment to the motion to state \$1 per cart not per golfer.

**It was moved by Vice-Chairman Barlow and seconded by Chairman Rowland that the Municipal Golf Commission approve the amendment to the original motion. The motion carried with all commissioners voting unanimously with the exception of Commissioner Peeters.**

- Vice-Chairman asked Commissioner Townsend if he would accept the amendment made to the original motion. Commissioner Townsend accepted the amendment.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

Dan Gooch Presentation:

- Mr. Gooch started by reintroducing Gordon Olson a former chairman of the Municipal Golf Commission and the current president of the Recreation Park Men's Club. Men's and Women's clubs in town realize the value of golfing programs here in the City and also realize these programs nurture our young citizens in this fine game of golf. As such we feel somewhat compelled and obligated to support the efforts of these individuals. Mr. Gordon Olson gave Lisa Georgeson a \$500 check for the Long Beach Junior Golf Programs.

- The Long Beach Century Club exists solely to raise money and to support amateur athletics and individuals in this field. The club has benefited from the support of the Municipal Golf Commission for many years and as such the club feels obligated to give back to the golfing community. Mr. Gooch presented a \$500 check to Lisa Georgeson for the Long Beach Junior Golf Programs.
- Mr. Gooch is also the president of a golf tournament that raises funds for Junior Golf Program, local high schools, Long Beach City College, and California State University, Long Beach. The Goose Invitational Tournament raises money to support amateur athletics and he presented a \$500 check to Lisa Georgeson for the Long Beach Junior Golf Programs.
- The last donation is from the Wilson High School Alumni Association for \$500 to the Long Beach Junior Golf Programs.

## 9. **COMMENTS**

### A. AUDIENCE

- Mr. Bill Barfield asked what the status was on his request for reinstatement of the Recreation Park 9 Golf Course away tournaments. Commissioner Christensen informed the commission he would schedule a meeting to review this request.

### B. STAFF

- Mr. Shippey commented on the outstanding presentation given by Mr. Dan Gooch to the City and the Long Beach Junior Golf Programs.

### C. COMMISSIONERS

- Commissioner Townsend thanked Dan Gooch for presenting the donations to the Long Beach Junior Golf Programs and commented on his hard work and dedication to the youngsters of our community.
- Commissioner Townsend brought up an article published in the Los Angeles Times on golfers losing their clubs. He warned all commissioners to be careful when out golfing and to remember to always keep your golf clubs with you at all times.

- Commissioner McCann commented on what a great job American Golf is doing to maintain the courses but he can't understand the way they run the concession at Recreation Park 9 and the food prices are very pricey. The course needs to be opened more hours and they definitely need more staff. They are charging \$2.75 for a regular size coke drink.
- Commissioner Christensen commented that the City has four great City owned restaurants that could be doing better. The City needs to maximize the use of their assets. Restaurants are opened at 8:00 a.m. and close at 2:00 p.m. very limited hours.
- Commissioner Cook asked why near hole #18` at El Dorado Golf Course there is a big hole covered with wood and nothing has been done. Mr. Lortz informed the commission this is the area where a french drain will be installed.
- Commissioner Christensen inquired about the discount tickets printed in the Los Angeles Times has it brought in any business? Mr. Jason Koh stated it has brought in business especially from Los Angeles County not from Orange County.
- Commissioner Peeters informed the commission on what happened to his group on March 25<sup>th</sup> at El Dorado Golf Course. Mr. Peeters passed out a copy of a list of items he highlighted that were golf course manual violations concerning starting times.
- It was agreed to put Mr. Peeters concerns on next month's agenda to allow time to discuss further.
- Chairman Rowland requested the hours of operation for the restaurants, pro shop and snack bar concerns on next month's agenda to allow time to discuss further.

**10. NEXT MEETING**

**May 25, 2005 at 3:30 p.m.  
Heartwell Junior Golf Building  
6730 E. Carson Street  
Long Beach, CA 90808**

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

- Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Emy Arteaga  
Golf Operations Support

c:     Municipal Golf Commission  
        Reginald I. Harrison, Deputy City Manager  
        Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine  
        Thomas A. Shippey, Manager of Maintenance Operations  
        Terry L. Lortz, Superintendent of Golf Operations  
        Jay Carballo, Regional Director of American Golf Corporation  
        Lisa Georgeson, Director of Junior Golf Programs